## CLAIMS

- 1. Composition of gum base for environmentfriendly chewing gum, comprising a swelling agent selected from the group comprising granular starches, particular hydroxypropylated, ethoxylated carboxymethylated starches, that can possibly be additionally crosslinked, dried A-granule wheat starch and pregelatinized starches with disintegrating power.
- 2. Composition of gum base according to Claim 1, wherein the swelling agent represents from 1 to 50 % by weight of the total weight of the gum base.
  - 3. Composition of gum base according to Claim 2, wherein the gum base contains from 1 to 35 % by weight, preferably from 5 to 25 % by weight of said swelling agent.
  - 4. Chewing gum comprising a gum base composition according to Claim 1.
- 5. Chewing gum according to Claim 4, comprising 20 from 15 to 60 % by weight of the said gum base.
  - 6. Chewing gum according to Claims 5, comprising from 20 to 40 % by weight of said gum base.
  - 7. Environment-friendly chewing gum, comprising by weight relative to its total dry matter:
    - from 15 to 50% of gum base

5

15

25

- from 1 to 15% of swelling agent
- from 0.5 to 80% of at least one crystallized polyol
  - from 0 to 10% of a syrup of maltitol
- 30 from 0 to 10% of a plasticizer, said swelling agent being selected from the group comprising the granular starches, in particular hydroxypropylated, ethoxylated and carboxymethylated starches, that can possibly be additionally 35 crosslinked, dried A-granule wheat starch and pregelatinized starches with disintegrating power.
  - 8. Method of preparation of an environmentfriendly chewing gum, wherein a swelling agent is selected from the group comprising granular starches,

in particular hydroxypropylated, ethoxylated and carboxymethylated starches, dried A-granule wheat starch and pregelatinized starches with disintegrating power, is incorporated in the gum base.

9. Method according to Claim 8, wherein the amount of said swelling agent that is incorporated in the gum base varies from 1 to 50% by weight relative to the total weight of the gum base.

5